

- ❖ Invent and demonstrate new uses for product packaging that you would normally just throw away.
- ❖ Write a list of rules and guidelines for your home for handling, storing and disposing of household hazardous materials.
- ❖ Interview a person who operates a gas station or other business that uses underground storage tanks. What is kept in the tanks? Could this material be harmful if it got into groundwater? How often are the tanks checked for leaks? How does the owner know if the tanks develop a leak? What is done if the tanks leak?
- ❖ Make a poster showing how your family or school can conserve water.
- ❖ Make a display of newspaper clippings involving groundwater issues for your school or local library.

Adapted from: *Groundwater Study Guide and Groundwater Resources and Educational Activities for Teaching*.

Additional Field Trip Ideas:

When planning a field trip, be sure to secure permission and discuss your activity with people at the site before your visit.

- ❖ municipal or county landfill site—possibly monitoring wells
- ❖ municipal water treatment plant, well and water tower
- ❖ agricultural operation—irrigation with wells, integrated pest management
- ❖ water resource sites—springs, rivers, lakes, wetlands
- ❖ rock exposures showing groundwater effects

Resource People:

Representatives from the following groups can explain their interest in groundwater and can often give insight into groundwater problems or issues of local interest. Contact with the community not only helps reinforce what is learned in the classroom, but also helps develop concern and sustains the enthusiasm of students.

Before you involve a resource person in your class, discuss with him or her your objectives and what you expect from his/her visit.

- ❖ water chemists
- ❖ licensed well driller (check the yellow pages of your phone book)

- ❖ pump dealers
- ❖ Department of Natural Resources environmental specialists (addresses of DNR regional offices are found on the back of the Groundwater Study Guide packet cover letter).
- ❖ municipal/county health or environmental specialists or county planners
- ❖ county University of Wisconsin–Extension resource or agricultural agents
- ❖ water treatment plant operators
- ❖ hydrologists, hydrogeologists, and engineers – private industry and governmental agencies

Publications

In addition to this booklet and activity sheets, the Groundwater Study Guide packet contains additional materials which are excellent sources of additional information.

- ❖ The *Wisconsin Groundwater Directory* contains contact information and resources available on a variety of groundwater topics, including groundwater protection and land use, groundwater contamination and clean-up and groundwater education. The Directory is included with the Groundwater Study Guide packet and is also available online by going to uwsp.edu/cnr/gndwater/info/index.htm.
- ❖ *Groundwater: Wisconsin's Buried Treasure* includes introductory information on groundwater, discusses the threats to groundwater, describes what Wisconsin agencies do to protect groundwater and lists steps individuals can take to protect this valuable resource. It is available online by going to dnr.wi.gov/org/water/dwg/gw/educate.htm.

- ❖ *Better Homes and Groundwater* describes actions that individuals can implement and practice to protect, conserve, and replenish groundwater. Topics include yard care, raingardens, household cleansers, wise water use, water conserving fixtures, water supply protection, and safe disposal practices. It can be downloaded online at dnr.wi.gov/org/water/dwg/gw/pubs/bhgw.pdf.
- ❖ *Groundwater Models Available* provides a listing of locations from which it might be possible to borrow a groundwater model for use in the classroom. The list is also available at dnr.wi.gov/org/water/dwg/gw/education/models.pdf.
- ❖ Water Resources Websites is a listing of websites for additional information on water resources, especially groundwater.